

We claim:

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A1
1. A compound which inhibits the *hedgehog* pathway in a normal cell and does not inhibit the *hedgehog* pathway in a *patched*-null cell.
  2. The compound of claim 1, wherein the compound has a molecular weight less than about 2000 amu.
  3. The compound of claim 1, wherein the compound has a molecular weight less than about 1000 amu.
  4. The compound of claim 1, wherein the compound causes a decrease in *gli* transcription of at least about 5% relative to an untreated control cell.
  5. The compound of claim 1, wherein the compound causes a decrease in *gli* transcription of at least about 10% relative to an untreated control cell.
  6. The compound of claim 1, wherein the compound causes a decrease in *gli* transcription of at least about 20% relative to an untreated control cell.
  7. The compound of claim 1, wherein the compound binds to *patched*.
  8. The compound of claim 1, wherein the compound inhibits the *hedgehog* pathway with an  $IC_{50}$  less than about 1  $\mu M$ .

9. The compound of claim 1, wherein the compound inhibits the *hedgehog* pathway with an  $IC_{50}$  less than about 100 nM.

10. The compound of claim 1, wherein the compound inhibits the *hedgehog* pathway with an  $IC_{50}$  less than about 10 nM.

11. The compound of claim 2, wherein the compound causes a decrease in *gli* transcription of at least about 5% relative to an untreated control cell.

12. The compound of claim 2, wherein the compound causes a decrease in *gli* transcription of at least about 10% relative to an untreated control cell.

13. The compound of claim 2, wherein the compound causes a decrease in *gli* transcription of at least about 20% relative to an untreated control cell.

14. The compound of claim 2, wherein the compound binds to *patched*.

15. The compound of claim 2, wherein the compound inhibits the *hedgehog* pathway with an  $IC_{50}$  less than about 1  $\mu$ M.

16. The compound of claim 2, wherein the compound inhibits the *hedgehog* pathway with an  $IC_{50}$  less than about 100 nM.

17. The compound of claim 2, wherein the compound inhibits the *hedgehog* pathway with an  $IC_{50}$  less than about 10 nM.

18. The compound of claim 4, wherein the compound inhibits the *hedgehog* pathway with an  $IC_{50}$  less than about 1  $\mu$ M.

19. The compound of claim 4, wherein the compound inhibits the *hedgehog* pathway with an  $IC_{50}$  less than about 100 nM.

20. The compound of claim 4, wherein the compound inhibits the *hedgehog* pathway with an  $IC_{50}$  less than about 10 nM.

21. The compound of claim 11, wherein the compound inhibits the *hedgehog* pathway with an  $IC_{50}$  less than about 1  $\mu$ M.

22. The compound of claim 11, wherein the compound inhibits the *hedgehog* pathway with an  $IC_{50}$  less than about 100 nM.

23. The compound of claim 11, wherein the compound inhibits the *hedgehog* pathway with an  $IC_{50}$  less than about 10 nM.

24. The compound of claim 2, wherein the compound increases PKA activity in a cell by a factor of at least about 2 relative to an untreated control cell.

25. The compound of claim 2, wherein the compound increases PKA activity in a cell by a factor of at least about 3 relative to an untreated control cell.

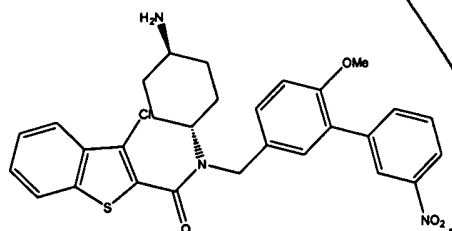
26. The compound of claim 2, wherein the compound increases PKA activity in a cell by a factor of at least about 5 relative to an untreated control cell.

27. The compound of claim 8, wherein the compound increases PKA activity in a cell by a factor of at least about 2 relative to an untreated control cell.

28. The compound of claim 8, wherein the compound increases PKA activity in a cell by a factor of at least about 3 relative to an untreated control cell.

29. The compound of claim 8, wherein the compound increases PKA activity in a cell by a factor of at least about 5 relative to an untreated control cell.

30. A compound which inhibits activation of the *hedgehog* pathway by a *hedgehog* protein, but does not inhibit activation of the *hedgehog* pathway by the following



compound:

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